

Chapter 9: Teaching and Learning with Technology in English and Language Arts Instruction

By: Holly Matthews
and
Terra Saulnier



Issues and Problems in English and Language Arts

Teachers' Responsibilities for the “New Literacies

- **Digital Literacy** – skills in using the information that technological devices carry, in addition to skills in using the devices themselves.
- **Informational Literacy** – a set of abilities requiring individuals to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information.

- Shifting definitions of literacy is challenging teachers to rethink the skills they teach in order to make their 21st century students truly literate.

The Need for New Instructional Strategies

- New strategies to foster reading and writing skills.
 - ebook and ereader reading behaviors are different from behaviors with print text.
- Strategies requiring social interaction
 - Teaching and learning are no longer confined to the traditional classroom context
 - Publishing work online

Challenges with Diverse Learners

- Because many students need additional instruction in literacy, appropriate use of technology can support their growth.
 - Audio books and ebooks

Challenges of Motivating Students to Read and Write

- Teachers are turning to the interactive and visual qualities of software and websites to increase motivation for reading and writing.

Teachers' Growth as Literacy Professionals and Leaders

- The burden falls on teachers' shoulders to take responsibility for learning how to integrate technologies effectively into the curriculum.

QWERTY Keyboarding: To Teach or Not to Teach?

- Those in favor – failure to learn proper fingering will inhibit fluent and speedy keyboarding
- Opponents – too much time and resources are spent on training students to type quickly
- Most teachers favor keyboard instruction if it is available and needed but not preventing students from using the computer if they do not yet have good keyboarding skills.

Technology Integration strategies for English and Language arts

- Integration strategies offer support for word fluency and vocabulary development, comprehension and literacy development, writing instruction, and literature learning.
 - Examples –
 - ReadWriteThink.org
 - Brainpop
 - Wordle
 - Kurzweil 300

Tech-Pack Needs and Challenges in English and Language Arts

- To integrate technologies effectively, teachers must have a combination of English and language arts content knowledge, pedagogical knowledge, and technological knowledge